

VZCZCXR08865
PP RUEHLN RUEHVK RUEHYG
DE RUEHDBU #0298 0581302

ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P R 271302Z FEB 07
FM AMEMBASSY DUSHANBE
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9695
INFO RUEHAK/AMEMBASSY ANKARA 1956
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 1935
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS 1183
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC
RUCNCIS/CIS COLLECTIVE
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC
RUEHDBU/AMEMBASSY DUSHANBE 1312
RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL 1994
RUEHML/AMEMBASSY MANILA 0146
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 2011
RHEHAAA/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 1621
RUEHVEN/USMISSION USOSCE 1917
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 1401
RUCPDOC/USDOC WASHDC 0143

UNCLAS DUSHANBE 000298

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

STATE FOR EB/TPP/IPE BOGER AND URBAN
STATE FOR SCA/CEN
STATE PLS PASS NSC MCKIBBEN
STATE PLS PASS USTR DONNELLY, ERRION, JCHOE-GROVES, MCCOY
USDOC FOR 4231/MAC/RISD/JBROUGH, DSTARKS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: KIPR ECON ETRD TI EINV

SUBJECT: TAJIKISTAN 301: RECOMMEND REMAIN ON WATCH LIST

REF: State 7944; Dushanbe 06 2107; Froman-Groves email 12-20-06

¶1. Tajikistan has taken significant steps over the past year to protect intellectual property, but much work remains in order to change its position on the Special 301 List. Therefore, post recommends that Tajikistan retain its Watch List status.

¶2. Recent advances include: an amendment to the Law on Intellectual Property to protect copyright owners from Internet theft; a new office dealing with intellectual property violations in the Ministry of Interior; a geographical indication law adopted in January; and a November parliamentary agreement to join the Rome Convention for the protection of intellectual property.

¶3. Despite the positive legislation, Tajikistan has taken few practical steps to defend intellectual property rights. Customs officials have no equipment to detect counterfeit products, and they do not check for violations unless a copyright owner specifically requests protection of his/her copyright. The Ministry of Interior office formed to crack down on intellectual property violations does not yet have actual operational capacity. (Post provided further detailed information in Reftels B and C).

JACOBSON